



Summary of Minutes

The **Historic Landscapes Subcommittee** of the Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission met at **12:00 pm, on Thursday, November 19, 2015, at BWS Architects, 261 North Court Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85701.**

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Meeting was called to order at 12:02 PM and a quorum was established.

Members Present:

Helen Erickson, Chair
Arthur Stables
Stephen Grede

Members Absent:

Patsy Waterfall
Josephine (Toni) Hilliard

2. **Approval of Minutes – May 11, 2015**

It was moved by Arthur Stables duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 3 to 0, (Patsy Waterfall and Josephine Hilliard absent/excused), to approve the Legal Action Report and Summary of Minutes for the meeting of 5/11/15.

3. **Himmel Park Guidelines**

Discussion was held, Action was taken.

Commissioner Grede presented the response for Himmel Park Guidelines as follows;

Thank you for sharing the Himmel Library Landscape Design Concept.

- *All of Himmel Park is included within the Himmel Park Historic District.*

- *The location of this design has a minor impact on the design of Himmel Park as a whole.*

The following design features do not take into account the historic character of the park or the library building

- *The Landscape Design Concept Plan presents multiple hardscape changes (concrete walks, entry brick patio, and topography)*
- *The Landscape Design Concept Plan makes significant planting modifications (species and a random planting cluster form not historically utilized in Himmel Park or parks of that era)*
- *Turf is a defining characteristic of Himmel Park. Removal means loss of historic fabric.*

The following minor design changes would make the landscape more compatible with the period of the park and library

- *The use of brick, although appropriate to the time period, is not otherwise utilized in Himmel Park and disrupts stylistic continuity. Concrete may be more appropriate.*
- *Changes in surface topography should be minimal so as not to detract from the overall form of the space and library.*
- *The diverse plant palette should be simplified. A palette appropriate for a private dwelling rather than a public space has been proposed.*
- *The introduction of new species to the park should be sensitive to the historic vegetative forms/plant structures.*
- *A more architectural use of planting is appropriate for Himmel Park and public places of this time period. This means grouping rather than dispersal of the same species.*

Commissioner Erickson responded to a request for evaluation and guidance on the Himmel Park Beautification Project. The evaluation was requested by Jennifer Toothaker (COT) on 10/14/15, and the response was forwarded to her on 11/18/15. Commissioner Stables moved that the response be included in the meeting minutes for future reference; this was seconded by Commissioner Grede. The motion was passed unanimously.

It was moved by Arthur Stables duly seconded, and carried by a voice vote of 3 to 0, (Patsy Waterfall and Josephine Hilliard absent/excused), to have the response included in the meeting minutes for future reference.

4. Neighborhood Inventory Project

Report was given by Arthur Stables. Discussion was held. No action taken.

Commissioner Stables presented an overview of the streetscape inventory work undertaken by Commissioners Stables and Waterfall. During December 2015 a working group made up of members of the Historic Landscapes Subcommittee and the Armory Park Neighborhood Association will test the methodology in Armory Park.

5. Call to the Audience

No audience was present.

6. Summary of Current Events (Information only)

Discussion was held, No Action Taken.

It was noted that an article summarizing collaborative work between COT, the Historic Landscapes Subcommittee and a wide range of civic and citizen organizations was published in the Fall 2015 issue of the *Alliance Review*.

A 2016 issue on streetscapes is being planned by the National Association of Preservation Commissions (NAPC), and the Historic Landscapes Subcommittee has been invited to provide an article for that issue.

7. Future Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items

A January 2016 meeting will be scheduled to discuss the results of the cooperative work on landscape inventory by the Historic Landscapes Subcommittee and the Armory Park Neighborhood Association.

8. Adjournment 12:47 P.M.